

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (original) A metal stud and clip assembly for use in a non-load- bearing wall to allow a horizontal ceiling or floor to vertically float thereon, the assembly including in combination:

an elongated metal stud member having a generally U-shaped cross section including a main portion with first and second edges and having first and second side members attached, respectively, to the first and second edges of the main portion;

at least a first receiver attached to the main portion of the stud member and spaced inwardly a predetermined distance from the first and second side members; and

a clip member having a first portion for attachment to a surface located above the stud and having at least a first elongated stabilizing bar attached thereto and extending downwardly to slidably engage the first receiver on the stud member to allow relative vertical movement between the stud member and the stabilizing bar.

2. (original) An assembly according to Claim 1 wherein first and second receivers are attached to the main portion of the stud member, each spaced inwardly a predetermined distance, respectively, from the first and second side members, and wherein the clip member has first and second elongated stabilizing bars attached thereto to slidably engage the first and second receivers, respectively, on the main portion of the stud member.

1 3. (original) The assembly according to Claim 2 wherein the
2 first and second receivers are hollow, elongated parallel channels
3 spaced inwardly from the first and second side edges of the main
4 portion of the stud member and extending the length thereof.

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6 4. (original) The assembly according to Claim 3 wherein the
7 stud member and the elongated channels are extruded from metal.

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9 5. (original) The assembly according to Claim 4 wherein the
10 clip member has first and second parallel elongated stabilizing
11 bars attached thereto extending downwardly from the main portion
12 thereof.

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14 6. (original) The assembly according to Claim 1 wherein the
15 first receiver comprises an elongated hollow channel extending
16 parallel to the first and second edges of the main portion of the
17 stud member, and the stabilizing bar includes an elongated bar
18 dimensioned to slidably fit into the elongated channel on the stud
19 member.

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21 7. (original) The assembly according to Claim 6 further
22 including a second elongated hollow channel on the main portion of
23 the stud member spaced from the first elongated channel and
24 extending parallel thereto, and a second elongated stabilizing bar
25 attached to the clip member dimensioned to slidably fit into the
26 second elongated channel on the stud member.

1 8. (original) The assembly according to Claim 6 wherein the
2 clip member comprises a generally U-shaped member having a flat
3 main portion with downwardly turned ends for fitting into a mating
4 track mounted above the location of the stud member, and wherein
5 the stabilizing bar extends substantially perpendicularly
6 downwardly from the main portion of the clip member.

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8 9. (canceled)

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10 10. (original) A method for installing a stud and clip
11 assembly for use in a non-load-bearing wall to allow a horizontal
12 ceiling or floor to vertically float thereon including the steps
13 of:

14 providing a stud with a stabilizing bar receiving channel
15 thereon parallel to the length thereof;

16 providing a mounting clip member with an elongated stabilizing
17 bar;

18 inserting the stabilizing bar into the receiving channel on
19 the stud for relative longitudinal sliding movement therein;

20 locating the stud and the clip member in position in a non-
21 load-bearing wall;

22 extending the clip member to a position for attachment to a
23 ceiling; and

24 attaching the clip member to the ceiling whereupon the
25 stabilizing bar holds the stud in position.
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1 11. (original) The method according to Claim 10 further
2 including the step of providing a mounting track on the ceiling and
3 wherein the step of attaching the clip member to the ceiling
4 comprises attaching the clip member to the mounting track.

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6 12. (original) The method according to Claim 11 further
7 including the step of attaching the bottom of the stud member to a
8 floor prior to attaching the clip member to the ceiling..

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10 13. (original) The method according to Claim 10 further
11 including the step of attaching the bottom of the stud member to a
12 floor prior to attaching the clip member to the ceiling.

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14 14. (NEW) A metal stud and clip assembly for use in a non-
15 load- bearing wall to allow a horizontal ceiling or floor to
16 vertically float thereon, the assembly including in combination:

17 an elongated metal stud member having a generally U-
18 shaped cross section including a main portion with first and second
19 edges and having first and second side members attached,
20 respectively, to the first and second edges of the main portion;

21 at least a first receiver attached to the main portion of
22 the stud member and spaced inwardly a predetermined distance from
23 the first and second side members;

24 a clip member having a first portion for attachment to a
25 surface located above the stud and having at least a first
26 elongated stabilizing bar attached thereto and extending downwardly

1 to slidably engage the first receiver on the stud member to allow
2 relative vertical movement between the stud member and the
3 stabilizing bar; and

4 a ceiling track extending along the length of the top of a
5 non-load-bearing wall and including first and second spaced apart
6 downwardly extending flanges for receiving the clip member, and
7 further, third and fourth spaced apart downwardly extending flanges
8 located outwardly, respectively, of the first and second downwardly
9 extending flanges a distance sufficient to permit the passage of
10 thickness of a standard wall covering therebetween, whereupon the
11 third and fourth outwardly extending flanges are designed for
12 receiving downwardly extending sections of wall covering for
13 overlapping corresponding wall covering attached to the studs.
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